



**To:** HRRC

**Agenda Item #:** VII.H.

**From:** Annie Johnson  
Staff Liaison

**Date:** September 24, 2013

**Subject:** Immigration Reform

**Action** ☐

**Discussion** ☐

**Information** ☒

**Action Requested:**  
**None.**

**Information / Background:**

At the August HRRC Meeting, the Commission approved forwarding a resolution regarding Immigration Reform to the City Council. The purposed of its placement in this month's agenda is a status update.

**Attachment:**

Adopted Resolution.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Draft Resolution on Immigration Reform

WHEREAS: It is the public policy of the City of Edina to secure for all of the residents of the City freedom from discrimination because of race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, marital status, disability, status with regard to public assistance, familial status or **national origin** in connection with employment, housing and real property, public accommodations, public services, credit and education, and to support the home, family and human relations in the City; and

WHEREAS: Edina has a foreign born population from throughout the world that increased nearly 50% in the last decade, from 2874 in the year 2000 to of 4307 in 2010, bringing the estimated 2012 foreign born population to over 9% of the total population; and

WHEREAS: Edina now ranks 66<sup>th</sup> among the 613 Minnesota cities in the percentage of the population that is foreign born; and

WHEREAS: The current United States immigration policy has resulted in large immigration backlogs, divided families, bureaucratic hurdles and difficulties for employers seeking to hire employees from foreign countries, and an estimated 11 million undocumented people from foreign countries who must live in the shadows of society where they are vulnerable to exploitation; and

WHEREAS: Immigration laws have important impacts on many employers and residents in Edina, and

WHEREAS: The United States Senate has recently passed, by a vote of 68-32, a bi-partisan comprehensive immigration reform bill that provides for securing the borders, upgrading the e-verify system for citizenship verification, eliminating the immigration backlog by 2021, providing a path to citizenship, increased penalties for human smuggling and child trafficking, and creating a large pool of talented employees to support our economy, and

WHEREAS: The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office has estimated that the proposed Senate immigration reform bill would not only greatly improve our economy, but would reduce the federal deficit by approximately \$875 billion in the next twenty years; and

WHEREAS: A recent American Action Network study estimates that passage of S 744 would create approximately 41,982 new jobs in Minnesota, including 12,850 in Congressional District 3 and 13,098 in Congressional District 5, and

WHEREAS: The Senate immigration bill is a compromise that is supported by both the AFL-CIO and U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and a broad coalition that includes almost all religious groups in America, and

WHEREAS: The United States House of Representatives must still pass comprehensive immigration reform before it can become law,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Edina City Council hereby urges the Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reforms similar to those proposed in S 744, the "Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act".